

through the White Clay Creek Preserve, the White Clay Creek State Park, and the Middle Run Natural Area.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to describe exactly what it means and what it does not mean for White Clay Creek to be designated wild and scenic. This bill means that the river receives permanent protection from federally-licensed or assisted water resource projects (dams, diversions, channelization, etc.) that would have a direct and adverse effect on its free-flowing condition or outstanding remarkable resources. It does not mean that existing wastewater treatment plants or potential reservoir sites cannot be expanded to accommodate carefully planned residential, commercial, and industrial growth. New Castle County is actively seeking solutions to water shortage problems, and this bill does not limit options that are in the best interests of the citizens of Delaware. The legislation does not open private lands to public access, nor does it usually affect existing uses of private property. This legislation does not replace the authority of state, county, and municipal governments to regulate land use in the watershed. In fact, there are no federal lands within the watershed and this bill does not authorize federal funds to be used to purchase land. It simply prohibits federal funds from being used to interfere with the free-flowing nature of the river or its unique resources. In doing so, it elevates the status of the river in competing for federal preservation grants. Finally, it mobilizes the states, local governments, and communities in the watershed to work together to preserve this unique, free flowing river.

Mr. Speaker, clearly the combination of White Clay Creek watershed's unique features and the strong local support for protecting the watershed justify its designation as a wild and scenic river. I hope the House Resources Committee will make it a priority to hold hearings on this bill. I am confident the Committee will agree that federal funds should not be used to obstruct the free flow or harm the unique resources of White Clay Creek.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF PAUL SCHAFER UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Paul Schafer has spent his life serving the people. He was born June 15th, 1933 to Franklin and Mary Davis Schafer. Paul was the youngest of five children who grew up near Bethesda, Ohio. Paul served in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1955 in Korea and Japan. In 1953, he married Mary Ellen Dougherty and the couple had three children Cindy, David and Doug.

Paul's career with the Ohio Department of Transportation began in July of 1978 as he served as Highway Maintenance Superintendent, a position he held until 1983. That year, he became Project Inspector of Construction. Throughout his career with ODOT, Paul also served as Construction Project

Specialist, Technical Supervisor, and Transportation Manager.

In addition to all of these efforts, Paul has also been an active member of his community. He is a member of the Bethesda United Methodist Church and serves on the church administrative board. Paul is also a member of the Hazen Lodge 251 F & AM, the American Legion Epworth Post #90, and the Belmont Bethesda Rotary Club. He is also a former member of the Belmont County Republican Central Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the career of Paul Schafer. His lifelong service and commitment to Belmont County is to be commended.

SOUTH BRONX MENTAL HEALTH COUNCIL, INC., NINTH PATIENT RECOGNITION AND EMPOWERMENT DAY

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to once again pay tribute to the South Bronx Mental Health Council, Inc., which tomorrow will celebrate its ninth annual "Patient Recognition and Empowerment Day."

Created in 1968 as Lincoln Community Mental Health Center, the South Bronx Mental Health Council, Inc., is a community-based organization which provides treatment and mental health services to the local population and to area schools and senior centers. It is committed to helping empower its patients and their families through the rehabilitation of patients and their reintegration in their communities.

All of us, I am sure, have known someone who, whether we were aware of it or not, struggled with some form of mental illness. Tragically, a suicide or other crisis is all too often our first—and only—indication of the individual's suffering.

While it is important, and appropriate, to recognize the care givers who provide these services, it is even more important that those individuals who have made special efforts to overcome their challenges also receive our attention and support.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting our friends at the South Bronx Mental Health Council, who on Friday, January 28, will celebrate the eighth annual Patient Recognition and Empowerment Day.

IN MEMORY OF ROGER V. LAFRANCOIS OF JEWETT CITY, CT

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Roger V. LaFrancois who was an extraordinary figure in sports in eastern Connecticut for decades. Roger LaFrancois exemplified good sportsmanship, the spirit of competition and fairness.

Roger LaFrancois was a legendary player and official in Connecticut. He started his career as a catcher for several minor league baseball teams. He also served as a scout for the Houston Astros professional baseball team. However, he is most widely known in eastern Connecticut as an umpire on the field and as the long-time Commissioner of the International Association of Approved Basketball Officials Eastern Board No. 8 after many years as a top-flight basketball referee in the high school ranks. As Commissioner, Roger managed officiating schedules for more than 80 high schools, 200 officials and thousands of baseball and basketball games. According to the Norwich Bulletin, Roger accomplished this incredible feat of organization using only a 3-ring binder.

Roger LaFrancois was a presence behind home plate at countless baseball games throughout Windham and New London counties. According to people who knew him best, Roger had a great impact on players and other umpires on the baseball diamond. He is well-remembered for his absolute fairness, calm demeanor and the complete respect he received from players and coaches alike. However, he was much more than an official. He was a mentor to hundreds of young athletes and aspiring umpires. Officials across eastern Connecticut have spoken about how Roger taught them about the game, and life.

Mr. Speaker, I join residents across our region in expressing my sympathy to his family. We can take comfort knowing that Roger LaFrancois' memory will live on in eastern Connecticut through the players and officials he has touched.

2000 COLORADO BUSINESS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE, ALLAN PHIPPS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an inductee for the 2000 Colorado Business Hall of Fame, Mr. Allan Phipps.

Jointly produced by the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and Junior Achievement, the Colorado Business Hall of Fame recognizes outstanding Colorado businesses and civic leaders from the past and present, publicizes the contributions of business leaders to our community and promotes the importance and value of the private enterprise system. From their ownership of the Denver Broncos to the innovation that has preserved the Winter Park ski area, one cannot look at the history of Colorado and not find evidence of the Phipps' brothers outstanding accomplishments.

Allan was born on October 3, 1912, in Denver, Colorado. For generations, the Phipps family has been important to Colorado. Lawrence Phipps Sr. was a United States Senator and his wife, Margaret Rogers Phipps, was the founder and president of the Denver Symphony.

Allan loved Denver, but when Congress declared war on Japan in 1941, he joined the